

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Divisional Application of ) Attorney  
Serial No. 09/309,001, filed May 10, 1999 ) Docket No. 47097-00018USD1  
)  
Applicants: David V. Dobreski )  
Steven P. Long ) Group Art No. 1772  
)  
Serial No. Unassigned ) Examiner: M. Miggins  
)  
For: Zipper Fins For Plastic Bags )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
Attention: Box Patent Application

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1/14/2002

Signature

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE TITLE:**

Please delete the Title of the above-identified patent application and replace with the following:

--Fasteners With Fin Portions--

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

In the section entitled "Related Applications", please delete page 2, lines 4-5 and add the following paragraph: --This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/309,001, filed May 10, 1999, which has been allowed and is incorporated by reference in its

entirety. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/309,001, is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/759,445, which issued on July 6, 1999 as U.S. Patent No. 5,919,535.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-32, 61-92 and 125-133 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 45, 97, 101, 106 and 109 as follows:

45. (Once Amended) A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:  
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and  
a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin selected from the group consisting of an ultra low density polyethylene, a very low density polyethylene, and a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions [fins] comprising from about 5 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

97. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 93, wherein said first resin is a metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene [an elastomer].

101. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 100, wherein at least one of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about 50 [60] wt.% of said second resin.

106. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 105, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about [60] 50 wt.% of said second resin.

109. (Once Amended) A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:  
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and

a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin selected from the group consisting of an ultra low density polyethylene, a very low density polyethylene, and a metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fins comprising from about 50 to about 90 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 10 to about 50 [90] wt.% of said second resin.

Please add claims 134 and 135 as follows:

-134. A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:

a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and

a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions is made from an ultra low density polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions comprising from about 25 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

135. The fastener of Claim 134, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached. --

#### REMARKS

Claims 45, 97, 101, 106 and 109 have been amended in the present application. Claims 1-32, 61-92 and 125-133 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 134 and 135 have been added to the present application. Thus, claims 33-60, 93-124, 134 and 135 are in the application after entry of the above amendments. The proposed claims are believed to be consistent with the specification and drawings, and are believed to be in a condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicants have also enclosed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) in which the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review these references and make them of record.

Conclusion

The Applicants believe that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 14, 2002



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**U.S. Divisional Application of Serial No. 09/309,001, filed May 10, 1999**

**SPECIFICATION**

**Related Applications**

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/309,001, filed May 10, 1999, which has been allowed and is incorporated by reference in its entirety. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/309,001, is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/759,445, which issued on July 6, 1999 as U.S. Patent No. 5,919,535.

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CLEAN VERSION OF CLAIMS

33. A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:  
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and  
a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin which is prepared in the presence of a single site catalyst, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 2 to about 3, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions comprising from about 5 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.
34. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached.
35. The fastener of Claim 34, wherein said first and second fin portions have lower edges, said lower edges are attached to form a one time openable tamper evident feature.
36. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein said first resin is prepared in the presence of a metallocene catalyst.
37. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 5 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.
38. The fastener of Claim 37, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

39. The fastener of Claim 37, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 5 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

40. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

41. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 5 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

42. The fastener of Claim 41, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 15 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 85 wt.% of said second resin.

43. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein at least one of said fin portions is prepared by coextruding the first resin and said second resin.

44. The fastener of Claim 33, wherein at least one of said fin portions comprises a blend of the first resin and said second resin.

45. (Once Amended) A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:  
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and  
a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin selected from the group consisting of an ultra low density polyethylene, a very low density polyethylene, and a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at

least one of said fin portions comprising from about 5 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

46. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached.

47. The fastener of Claim 46, wherein said first and second fin portions have lower edges, said lower edges are attached to form a one time openable tamper evident feature.

48. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein said first resin is an ultra low density polyethylene.

49. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein said first resin is a very low density polyethylene.

50. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein said first resin is a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene.

51. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein said first resin has a polydispersity of from about 1.5 to about 4.

52. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 5 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

53. The fastener of Claim 52, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

54. The fastener of Claim 52, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 5 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.



55. The fastener of Claim 54, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 15 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 85 wt.% of said second resin.

56. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

57. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 5 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

58. The fastener of Claim 57, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 15 to about 25 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 75 to about 85 wt.% of said second resin.

59. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein at least one of said fin portions is prepared by coextruding the first resin and said second resin.

60. The fastener of Claim 45, wherein at least one of said fin portions comprises a blend of the first resin and said second resin.

93. A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:

a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and

a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin which is prepared in the presence of a single site catalyst, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 2 to about 3, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions comprising from about 50 to 100 wt.% of said first resin, and from 0 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

94. The fastener of Claim 93, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached.
95. The fastener of Claim 94, wherein said first and second fin portions have lower edges, said lower edges are attached to form a one time openable tamper evident feature.
96. The fastener of Claim 93, wherein said first resin is prepared in the presence of a metallocene catalyst.
97. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 93, wherein said first resin is a metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene.
98. The fastener of Claim 93, wherein at least one of said fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 90 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 10 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
99. The fastener of Claim 98, wherein at least one of said fin portions comprises from about 60 to about 85 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 15 to about 40 wt.% of said second resin.
100. The fastener of Claim 98, wherein at least one of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
101. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 100, wherein at least one of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
102. The fastener of Claim 93, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to 100 wt.% of said first resin, and from 0 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
103. The fastener of Claim 102, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 90 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 10 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

104. The fastener of Claim 103, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 60 to about 85 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 15 to about 40 wt.% of said second resin.

105. The fastener of Claim 103, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

106. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 105, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

107. The fastener of Claim 93, wherein at least one of said fin portions is prepared by coextruding the first resin and said second resin.

108. The fastener of Claim 93, wherein at least one of said fin portions comprises a blend of the first resin and said second resin.

109. (Once Amended) A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:  
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and  
a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin selected from the group consisting of an ultra low density polyethylene, a very low density polyethylene, and a metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fins comprising from about 50 to about 90 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 10 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

110. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached.

111. The fastener of Claim 110, wherein said first and second fin portions have lower edges, said lower edges are attached to form a one time openable tamper evident feature.

112. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein said first resin is an ultra low density polyethylene.
113. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein said first resin is a very low density polyethylene.
114. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein said first resin is a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene.
115. The fastener of Claim 109 wherein said first resin has a polydispersity of from about 1.5 to about 4.
116. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 60 to about 85 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 15 to about 40 wt.% of said second resin.
117. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
118. The fastener of Claim 117, wherein at least one of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
119. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein each of said fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 90 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 10 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.
120. The fastener of Claim 119, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 60 to about 85 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 15 to about 40 wt.% of said second resin.
121. The fastener of Claim 119, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

122. The fastener of Claim 121, wherein each of said first and second fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about 50 wt.% of said second resin.

123. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein at least one of said fin portions is prepared by coextruding the first resin and said second resin.

124. The fastener of Claim 109, wherein at least one of said fin portions comprises a blend of the first resin and said second resin.

134. A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:

a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and

a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions is made from an ultra low density polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions comprising from about 25 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

135. The fastener of Claim 134, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached.